

Department of Energy

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ROCKY FLATS OFFICE P.O. BOX 928 GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0928

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Mr. Gary Baughman Hazardous Waste Facilities Unit Leader Colorado Department of Health 4210 East 11th Avenue Denver, Colorado 80220

Mr. Martin Hestmark
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII
A'ITN: Rocky Flats Project Manager, 8HWM-RI
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Denver, Colorado 80220-2405

Gentlemen:

The Department of Energy (DOE) has reviewed and is concerned about your comments on the Background Characterization Work Plan. This work plan dictates the type of statistical analyses to be used and subsequently, the information presented in the annual background geochemical reports. The DOE feels the comments are substantial enough to halt the preparation of this year's background geochemisty report until an agreement on the approach in the work plan can be reached. Scoping meetings with your technical staff are being scheduled to work out the differences. The DOE proposes to deliver the revised work plan this December 21 and the report by February 28, 1992. Please notify DOE if these dates are acceptable.

If you have any questions, please contact Brent Lewis of my staff at 966-4765.

Sincerely,

David P. Simonson Assistant Manager

for Environmental Management

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